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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. KOLBE].

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
July 18, 1996.

I hereby designate the Honorable JIM KOLBE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

Our hearts, our thoughts, our prayers go out to the families of those whose lives were lost in the airplane tragedy of last evening. And yet, our words of comfort seem to fall short when we realize the depth of anguish and pain that they must feel. So we pray, O loving and gracious God, that Your words of eternal life and hope, Your spirit of grace, and Your hand of strength will be with them in this moment of great need. May Your peace, O God, that passes all human understanding, be with the families and all who mourn, now and evermore. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. BARR]

come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BARR of Georgia led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment a concurrent resolution of the House of the following title:

S. Con. Res. 64. Concurrent resolution to recognize and honor the Filipino World War II veterans for their defense of democratic ideals and their important contribution to the outcome of World War II.

The message also announced that the Senate had passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 497. An act to create the National Gambling Impact and Policy Commission.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain three 1-minutes from each side.

CRACK USERS ALLOWED TO WORK AT THE WHITE HOUSE

(Mr. FUNDERBURK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, in testimony before the House Government Reform and Oversight Committee, two Secret Service agents, Arnold Cole and Jeffrey Undercoffer, testified that administration officials were allowed to work at the

White House even though they were known to have been users of crack cocaine and other drugs.

Agent Cole testified that several White House employees were initially denied access to the White House because of their recent drug use, but were allowed to stay because they were placed in a special testing program.

It was also revealed late yesterday that Bill Clinton had personal knowledge of these events.

Certainly the White House cannot spin this as another bureaucratic snafu. How can the American people take Bill Clinton's war on drugs seriously when he thinks it is perfectly acceptable to hire employees who have smoked crack.

CALLING FOR INDEPENDENT COMMISSION ON ELECTION REFORM

(Mrs. MALONEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, reform week is here. The most important reform—campaign finance, will not get reformed. Everyone knows that money plays too much of a role in politics, everyone except the Republican Congress.

Under their extreme bill, a wealthy contributor can give three times what current law allows to Federal candidates. Three times the current limit to each national party committee. And, this bill allows over 10 times more money to State party committees. The Republican bill would allow \$12.4 million in contributions from one family in a single election cycle. This isn't election reform, it's an auction.

I support the Democrat bill, the Farr bill, which voluntarily limits contributions and expenditures. The contrast between the two bills is staggering.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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